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April 9, 2010

The Honorable Daniel Inouye
Chairman
Subcommittee on Defense
Senate Appropriations Committee
Senate Dirksen Office Building, Room 122
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Vice Chairman
Subcommittee on Defense
Senate Appropriations Committee
Senate Dirksen Office Building, Room 122
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Inouye and Senator Cochran:

As the Committee begins its consideration of the Fiscal Year 2011 Defense Appropriations Bill, I am writing to request support for the following programs:

PROJECT REQUESTS

Item Name: Alaska National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Facilities
Request: \$1,500,000
Account: Operations and Maintenance - Defensewide
Line: 1
PE: BA-4 Civil Military Programs, National Guard Youth Challenge
Intended Recipient: State of Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs
Address: Fort Richardson, Alaska
Purpose/Project Description: The Alaska Military Youth Academy, operated by the Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs, occupies 22 buildings on the Camp Carroll training site which were built in the 1960s and are in need of infrastructure improvements. The funds requested will enable the Alaska Military Youth Academy to pursue improvements which may include improvements to laundry facilities, construction of a 5,000 square foot addition to a supply facility and construct the first on-campus athletic field for physical training, sports and outdoor activities.

Item Name: Port of Anchorage Military Infrastructure Upgrades
Request: \$10,000,000
Account: Operations and Maintenance -Defensewide
Line: 240
PE: BA-4, Office of Economic Adjustment
Intended Recipient: Port of Anchorage
Address: Anchorage, Alaska
Purpose/Project Description: The Port of Anchorage is a DOD designated strategic seaport which supports deployments, redeployments and cargo handling for Fort Richardson and Fort Wainwright, Eielson AFB, Elmendorf AFB and Fort Greely. The Port is also home base of the US Coast Guard Marine Safety Team. The Port of Anchorage Intermodal Expansion Project enables the port to meet the current and future logistics needs of the military in Alaska.

Item Name: Kodiak Launch Complex
Request: \$9,500,000
Account: RTDE – Air Force
Line: 40
PE: 060383OF
Intended Recipient: Alaska Aerospace Corporation
Address: Kodiak, Alaska

Purpose/Project Description: The Alaska Aerospace Corporation was established by the State of Alaska and operates the Kodiak Launch Complex, the Nation's first full service spaceport not located on a federal reservation. The Kodiak Launch Complex is one of two space launch facilities located on the west coast and has completed 14 successful launches to date for the Air Force, Army, NASA and the Missile Defense Agency. Funding is requested to replace past sustaining funding from the Missile Defense Agency to keep and maintain facilities and key launch personnel in an operational ready state to support Air Force and DOD space protection programs while a more broad-based DOD source of sustaining funds is identified.

Item Name: Alaska National Guard Counterdrug Program
Request: \$3,000,000
Account: Drug Interdiction
Line: National Guard Counterdrug
PE: 0105 110
Intended Recipient: Alaska National Guard
Address: Fort Richardson, Alaska

Purpose/Project Description: Continued support for Alaska National Guard Counterdrug program which provides operational and logistical support to law enforcement throughout Alaska and drug abuse prevention education through schools and community based organizations.

Item Name: ALS Therapy Development for Gulf War Research
Request: \$4,500,000
Account: RTDE - Army
Line: 2040 BA-3 Advanced Technology Development
PE: 0603002A
Intended Recipient: ALS Therapy Development Institute
Address: Cambridge, MA

Purpose/Project Description: The ALS Therapy Development Institute is a non-profit biotechnology company devoted to developing therapies to treat ALS, also known as "Lou Gehrig's Disease." There is currently no effective therapeutic for ALS, a fatal neurological disorder. An estimated 5,000 people are stricken with ALS each year in the United States. A recent report by the National Academies' Institute of Medicine (IOM) supports the association between service in the U.S. military and increased risk of developing ALS. A study funded jointly by the VA and DOD concluded that those deployed in the first Gulf War were twice as likely to develop ALS as their non-deployed counterparts and potentially at younger ages. Air Force veterans, it determined, faced the highest risk, at 2.7 times those not service. A 2005 study by the Harvard School of Public Health found that men with any military service were nearly 60% more likely to die of ALS than men in the general population. The funding will be used to expedite translational discoveries in ALS research.

Item Name: Hawaii-Alaska New Energy Project – Methane Hydrates
Request: \$5,000,000
Account: RTDE Navy
Line: 1319 BA-1
PE: 0601153N
Intended Recipient: University of Hawaii, International Center for Climate and Society
Address: Honolulu Hawaii
Purpose/Project Description: This funding will enable the International Center for Climate and Society, in collaboration with the Barrow Arctic Science Consortium, Barrow, AK, to jointly pursue research regarding the energy potential of methane hydrates. Methane hydrates potentially represent more available clean burning energy than all known hydrocarbon and coal deposits in the world. Technical aspects of this research will include helping identify ways to safely produce methane hydrates using the unique terrestrial occurrence of hydrates in the Arctic; investigations of the extent to which natural releases of hydrates contribute to atmospheric burdens of methane; and potential climate impacts of natural releases and commercial production. Furthermore, on the assumption that this research will help in producing methane from these hydrate formations, socioeconomic studies will be undertaken to identify potential impacts of production both locally and nationally, as well as the ways and means for the United States to capitalize on these untapped resources.

Item Name: Virtual Door Gunner Training
Request: \$ 2,000,000
Account: National Guard and Reserve Equipment
Line: 177
PE: OPA3
Intended Recipient: Alaska Army National Guard
Address: Fort Richardson, AK
Purpose/Project Description: The Virtual Door Gunner Trainer (VDGT) is the first virtual door gunner trainer that allows helicopter crews to train for the situations they will face when deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan. The VDGTT provides crews with a full training capability to practice engagements. This device will provide Army National Guard soldiers training opportunities equal to their active Army counterparts.

Item Name: Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex (JPARC) Sustainment/Enhancements
Request: \$7,180,000
Account: Operation & Maintenance, Air Force
BA: 01
Sub-activity Group: 11Z
Intended Recipient: 11th Air Force
Address: Elmendorf AFB, AK
Purpose/Project Description: Funding is for projects to enhance the training capabilities of the JPARC. It will fund sustainment and emergency on-site repairs for both TPS-77 radars, without which RED FLAG-ALASKA, Aggressor, GCI, and Blue forces training will be severely impacted. It will fund the JPARC EIS to address ground training requirements for range improvement. It will also provide funding for Former Soviet Union (FSU) threat system operations, Advanced Capability Pod (ACAP) spare parts, and Denro spare parts replenishment.

Item Name: Install/Repair HVAC Systems
Request: \$2,000,000
Account: Operation & Maintenance, Army
BA: 01

Sub-activity Group: 132

Intended Recipient: Fort Greely

Address: Fort Greely, AK

Purpose/Project Description: This project will upgrade the HVAC system in building 601 and replace the HVAC system in building 661. This will provide balanced temperature controlled air flow throughout building 601 to meet the standards required for current occupied use. Building 601 is a warehouse facility that has been converted partially into office space. Building 661 houses the dining hall, company orderly room, troop medical clinic, and the education center. Both systems are unserviceable and huge energy consumers.

Item Name: Red Integrated Air Defense System (IADS) – Phase IVB
Request: \$ 5,000,000
Account: Other Procurement, Air Force
PE: 0207429F
Intended Recipient: 11th Air Force
Address: Elmendorf AFB, Anchorage AK

Purpose/Project Description: This project is the capstone of the very successful Phases I, II, and IIIA/B for procurement of surface-to-air missile training systems. This is a significant training enabler that is critical to 5th generation aircraft tactics, techniques, and procedures. It is the cornerstone of training and tactics validations for USAF/USN/USMC fighters.

Item Name: Test/Training/Communication Instrumentation Upgrade
Request: \$5,600,000
Account: Other Procurement, Air Force
PE: 0207429F
Intended Recipient: 11th Air Force
Address: Elmendorf AFB, Anchorage AK

Purpose/Project Description: This project will fund upgrades to the Test/Training Enabling Network Architecture (TENA), complete installation and integration of newest ACMI pod ground stations, and it will significantly improve communications capabilities. It will provide more reliable performance for aircrew debriefing/scenario integration with LVC components. It will complete installation and integration of ground stations for USAF/USN's newest ACMI Pod (P-5) and MOKKITS ground stations and provide an update to Live Situation Display and RADS/DIS integration for improved pod tracking performance. Lastly it will fund procurement of 10 additional Harris 5800 HQ-capable radios adding UHF/VHF radio capability to ACMI threat suites providing real-time monitor and control of air assets during joint exercises.

Item Name: Upgrade Readiness Training Center Main Area

Request: \$1,700,000

Account: Operation & Maintenance, Air Force

BA: 01

Sub-activity Group: 11R

Intended Recipient: Eielson AFB

Address: Eielson AFB, AK

Purpose/Project Description: This project will update and reconfigure selected interior spaces at the base Readiness Training Center. It will include remodeling of the main locker rooms, distinguished visitor locker rooms, public restrooms, and ancillary spaces. Selected public corridors, stairways, and lobby spaces are to receive finish updates and incorporate clear way fining markings and signage for improved building circulation. Existing building deficiencies at the steam rooms, saunas, stair railings, and pool access are to be corrected.

Item Name: Gaffney Road Resurfacing

Request: \$1,650,000

Account: Operation & Maintenance, Army

BA: 01

Sub-activity Group: 132

Intended Recipient: Fort Wainwright

Address: Fort Wainwright, AK

Purpose/Project Description: Gaffney Road is the primary arterial through Fort Wainwright. It has a pavement condition that is failing and has gone well beyond its service life. Surface pavement failure is evidenced primarily by transverse and longitudinal cracking. If not addressed in the near future, then failure will continue to accelerate and portions of the road will require closure and major reconstruction that exceeds the base operations and maintenance contract.

Item Name: River Road Paving

Request: \$1,280,000

Account: Operation & Maintenance, Army

BA: 01

Sub-activity Group: 132

Intended Recipient: Fort Wainwright

Address: Fort Wainwright, AK

Purpose/Project Description: River Road is currently a gravel road and requires a hard surface to support range transport and training operations. Heavy military vehicles such as the rubber-tired Strykers cause numerous pot-holes and require frequent maintenance. If not addressed in the near future the repair effort will exceed the base operations and maintenance contract.

Item Name: Repair Arctic Utilities and Infrastructure PH 1

Request: \$10,800,000

Account: Operation & Maintenance, Air Force

BA: 01

Sub-activity Group: 11R

Intended Recipient: Elmendorf AFB

Address: Elmendorf AFB, Anchorage, AK

Purpose/Project Description: There are mission critical repairs needed for the aging base utilities distribution system infrastructure. Many of the systems are running at or above design capacity, and as a whole, systems are beyond their design life. The infrastructure is not receiving necessary preventative maintenance due to the workload required to keep the system functional.

Item Name: Repair Training Road Infrastructure

Request: \$5,000,000

Account: Operation & Maintenance, Army

BA: 01

Sub-activity Group: 132

Intended Recipient: Fort Richardson

Address: Fort Richardson, AK

Purpose/Project Description: This project will repair, upgrade, and improve several major road networks which provide access to training areas on the installation. The work will include installing an adequate road crown, then capping with an additional crushed rock, and improve drainage. Funding this requirement will facilitate a safe road network which will assist in ensuring the installation infrastructure is ready to meet all mission requirements.

Item Name: Limited Use Access Control Point

Request: \$1,900,000

Account: Operation & Maintenance, Army

BA: 01

Sub-activity Group: 132

Intended Recipient: Fort Greely

Address: Fort Greely, AK

Purpose/Project Description: This project will design and construct an upgrade to an existing one lane, half-mile gravel trail to a two lane paved surface capable of being utilized as a Limited Use Access Control Point. Fort Greely has only one access control point for the entire installation. The southern entrance was eliminated due to security requirements for the missile fields and the alternate north access route was eliminated by a runway extension project for Allen Army Airfield.

Item Name: Install Southern Boundary Fence

Request: \$715,000

Account: Operation & Maintenance, Army

BA: 01

Sub-activity Group: 132

Intended Recipient: Fort Greely

Address: Fort Greely, AK

Purpose/Project Description: This project will provide a perimeter fence and restricted area signs at the southeast boundary of the installation. The fence will tie into Gate 10 and add a new vehicle gate. This fencing is required to meet Army requirements and to secure the installation.

PROGRAMMATIC REQUEST

Increase the ALS Research Program within the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs by \$5,000,000 over the Fiscal Year 2010 funding level of \$7,500,000.

LANGUAGE REQUESTS

In addition, I request that the following bill language be included:

Alaska Region Supercomputing Center

Notwithstanding 10 USC 2361, 10 USC 2304(k), and 41 USC 253(i), the Department of Defense, High Performance Computing Modernization Program, is authorized to extend, for a period of five years, its current contract with the University of Alaska Fairbanks Arctic Region Supercomputing Center.

Alaska Railroad Grant Reprogramming

Funds available for the Office of Economic Adjustment Fort Wainwright/Eielson Air Force Base Track Realignment in the Joint Explanatory Statement to Accompany the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2007 (division A of Public Law 109-289) remaining available for expenditure as of the date of enactment of this Act shall instead be available for "Joint Tanana Access" as provided by the Department of Defense Appropriations Act of 2009 (division C of Public Law 110-329).

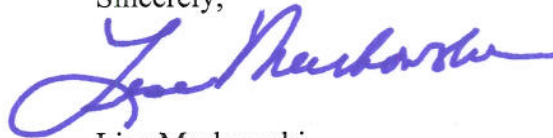
Alaska Range Infrastructure and Training Areas

The Secretaries of the Air Force and the Army are authorized, using funds available under the headings "Operation and Maintenance, Air Force" and "Operation and Maintenance, Army", to complete facility conversions and phased repair projects which may include upgrades and additions to Alaskan range infrastructure and training areas, and improved access to these ranges.

I certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief neither I nor my immediate family has a pecuniary interest in any of the congressionally directed spending item(s) that I have requested, consistent with the requirements of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate. I further certify that I have posted a description of the items requested on my official website, along with the accompanying justification.

If you have any questions, please contact Nathan Bergerbest of my staff at (202) 224-2839.

Sincerely,



Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator